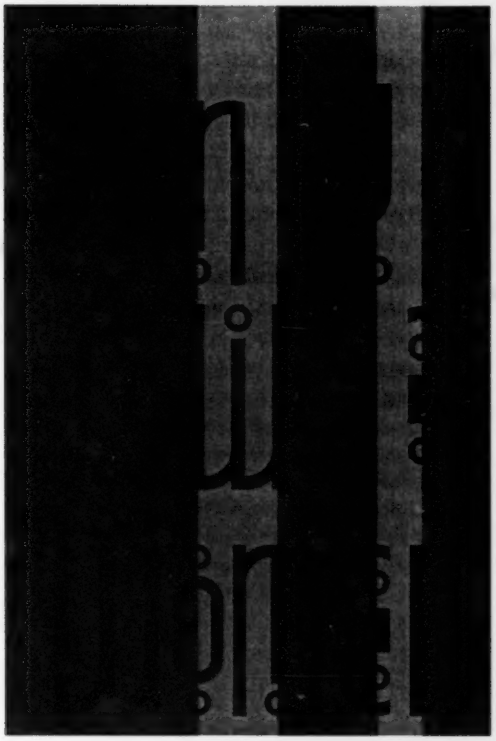

Annual Report 2010-2011

ACTIVITIES OF THE PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

April 1, 2010, to March 31, 2011

About the Cover Image

"Empower Women," by Susan Christensen,
Digital print, 24" x 36", 2011
Susan created this inspiring print for the International Women's Day Centenary Art Exhibition at The Guild in Charlottetown in 2011.

About the Artist

Susan Christensen was born in Summerside, PEI, and her love for her Island home is clearly evident in the artwork which is her passion. Extensive travel has highlighted for her the beauty and serenity of her Prince Edward Island home. Communion with nature is the essence of her inspiration, and it is this exploration of her personal responses that produces works known internationally and nationally as well as locally. Her photo etchings have shown in Japan on numerous occasions. Her image "Beach Walk, PEI" was chosen to represent PEI at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. Susan has translated her knowledge and experience in the fine arts to make a transition into work in graphic design and illustration. Susan runs Studio 4 gallery, with a defining focus on the spirit of innovation and creative force. Susan's level of artistic skill, enriched by her deeply rooted passion, creates the demand for her visual art, graphic design, and illustrations.

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

Advisory Council on the Status of Women

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September 2011

Hon. Janice Sherry, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
PO Box 2000
Charlottetown PEI C1A 7N8

Dear Minister Sherry:

I am pleased to present you with the 2010–2011 Annual Report of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women. The Annual Report contains our audited financial statements and a summary of Council's activities, publications, and collaborations with government from April 1, 2010, to March 31, 2011.

Sincerely,

Diane Kays

Diane Kays, Chairperson

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CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Another fiscal year has flown quickly by, and it is time to mark 2010-2011, with a reflection on the activities, challenges, and hopes of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women. When I review the Annual Report, I am struck by the productivity of this organization, especially by the extraordinary daily contribution of its 2.5-person staff. For part of this year, in fact, Council functioned on a still smaller staff, with one member on leave for a period of time. From the Report I have selected some topics for comment.

In past times, Prince Edward Island has boasted an organized and active community of women to partner with the Advisory Council in giving voice to an array of equality concerns. Unfortunately, since the 1990s advocacy groups have experienced a shift in focus in funding supports at the federal level, resulting in some excellent service-oriented projects but also a lack of targeted research and ability to advocate for policy change. Thus Council has to work harder to ensure that its views and recommendations to government represent women's reality, especially the reality of the most vulnerable women. This year, Council initiated Kitchen Table Consultations as a way of engaging a broadened constituency of women in discussion about their everyday lives. The Consultations are also an effective method of involving the Council members in the work of Council, creating public awareness, and confirming that Council's input to government is reliable.

I look forward to more of this kind of outreach.

On pages 28-30 of this Report, readers will find an overview of enquiry and referral activity by the Council office. When relationships fall apart, everyone hurts, not the least being women who, statistics will tell, most often remain primary caregivers of children. Adults typically are pragmatic learners, and in true form, spouses and partners begin to learn about the legalities of property division, custody and access, safety planning, orderly debt payment, and so much more, when they are forced to cope with new realities. The PEI Status of Women office refers to existing services, and also listens to intractable situations in which systems are not serving the needs of individuals and community. In addition to legal issues, sexual abuse, harassment, homophobia, and human rights complaints are frequent. Enquiries and referral activity produces first-hand data that may become incorporated into policy recommendations or a future community project. Enquiries can be stressful and time-consuming for staff, yet they are a critical aspect of equality work.

The Advisory Council on the Status of Women is well recognized for its leadership in the Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence. This public awareness campaign is held during the UN's 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. The December 6th memorial to the victims of the Montreal Massacre is always an emotional event. Although 20 years has passed since the tragedy in Montreal, the PEI community continues to turn out in numbers to say that violence against women, family violence, and relationship violence are not

acceptable. It is gratifying that more public and group events were organized across the province in 2010 than in recent years. The Council acknowledges many financial and in-kind contributors to the Purple Ribbon Campaign on page 52 of this report.

Council's initiative to assess government's progress towards women's equality goals – the Equality Report Card – remained on the agenda during 2010-2011. The *Interim Trends Report* that Council decided to release at the halfway point between the 2009 and 2011 full Report Cards notes many positives that government has brought about, enabling Council to forecast improved grades for the administration when a full report card is issued in June 2011. An academic report card typically informs a learner how she could improve her future performance. The Status of Women has done likewise for government, naming three priority areas for action. Among these are continued supported transitions in early childhood care and learning. The initiative to support early childhood education while kindergarten transitioned into public schools unfolded very quickly in 2010, and while Council applauded most aspects of the strategy, it was concerned about the considerable human resource void created by movement of staff within the sector and about short turn-around times and perceived lack of information to parents, business owners, and early childhood educators. A year hence, the early childhood sector appears to be progressing favourably through the change.

Council has long advocated for the application of gender- and diversity-based analysis (GBA) to enable policy

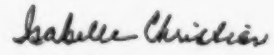
makers and legislators to identify ways in which government actions may produce unexpected or unequal outcomes for men, women, and diverse populations. The completion of a statistical compendium on women in Prince Edward Island is a necessary step toward implementing GBA. Government can improve its 2011 rating regarding women's overall equality by systematically training staff to apply GBA to policy-making.

The third area marked for improvement in the Trends Report is a trio of promises that appear to have slowed or stalled within the machinery of government. They are Poverty Reduction, a Domestic Violence Court, and the striking of a Legislative Committee on the Role of the MLA. The first two of these are complicated issues that clearly require a choice to direct resources to them (and not to something else). The 2009 Equality Report Card outlined many of our hopes and concerns about these issues in more detail, and it is available on our website, http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw → "Policy and Research" → 2009 Equality Report Card or directly at the URL http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw/index.php3?number=1024686&lang=E.

As a partner in the PEI Coalition for Women in Government, Council has urged government to examine the factors that suppress and maintain women's participation in elected office at about the 25 percent mark. Under-representation of women in public life is a widespread inequality in Western democracies and beyond. There is no better place to begin changing the culture than in Canada's Birthplace of Confederation.

This Chair's Message will be my final one. My term as Chair ends in mid-June 2011, when I will leave both the Chair and the Council. I know I will miss it greatly and will need to find another outlet to express my equality passions.

I want to thank Honourable Janice Sherry and Honourable Valerie Docherty, as the current and past Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women during my tenure. Thanks also to members of Council and the staff who work so hard to fulfill our mandate. I know that being a voice for women's issues can be a lonely pursuit. Thanks for caring, learning, listening, celebrating, cajoling, negotiating, speaking up, and speaking out. Thanks for being leaders.



Isabelle Christian
Chairperson
Term completed June 13, 2011

About the Advisory Council

Mandate

The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women (PEIACSW) is a government-appointed provincial advisory agency made up of nine women who share a vision: respect and equality of opportunity for all people regardless of gender, race, religion, wealth, or ability.

The Advisory Council works for equality and supports women's full and active participation in social, legal, cultural, economic, and political spheres of life. Over the years, the Council has developed a policy of commitment toward feminist process in conducting its affairs and in problem resolution.

The Advisory Council achieves its mandate through its unique relationship with both the government and the community. The Advisory Council began in 1975 as an Order-in-Council. In 1988, it received full legislative standing with the *PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act*. This act continues to govern the Council's structure and mandate.

Roles of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women

- serves as a community arm to the provincial government
- acts as a liaison and advisor regarding issues identified by communities and individual women on PEI
- conducts research on these identified concerns and offers recommendations to government departments, committees, royal commissions, special task forces, and community consultations to promote equality
- informs the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women about events and issues concerning women's equality
- works collaboratively with community organizations and government systems towards equality for all women
- initiates and participates in projects and events of benefit to Island women
- responds to enquiries from individuals, organizations, and government
- listens to women and validates their experience in understanding issues that affect them and their families
- provides leadership that educates and stimulates public awareness about the status of women
- meets with other provincial/territorial Advisory Councils

Meetings

The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women is mandated to meet at least four times per year.

At their meetings, Council members share their experiences, knowledge, and understanding of issues; they discuss and decide on policy priorities and recommendations to government; they meet with government officials or community organizations; or they invite resource people who offer opportunities for learning and analysis.

Council's strategic planning processes are ongoing. The goal of Council Planning is to ensure that Council's policy work is based on Council's priorities and that Council looks to the future on issues of concern to women. Ensuring ongoing follow-up on issues is part of Council Planning. Council sets its objectives in an interest-based, collaborative, and consultative process, with expert facilitation whenever this is possible.

Advisory Council meetings, 2010–2011

- **110th meeting**: May 4, 2010, Charlottetown, PEI
- **111th meeting**: June 24, 2010, Stratford, PEI
- **112th meeting**: October 15, 2010, Montague, PEI
- **113th meeting**: December 6, 2010, Charlottetown, PEI
- **114th meeting**: February 17, 2011, Charlottetown, PEI
- **115th meeting**: March 15, 2011, Cornwall, PEI

Council Meeting highlights, 2010–2011

- *May 4, 2010, Charlottetown, PEI – Social Marketing Workshop*
  Council reviewed draft materials for Kitchen Table Consultations and for the Interim Equality Report Card. A presentation on social marketing by Maureen Kerr and Lori Mayne led to valuable discussion of ways to use social media to enhance Council's communications.
- *June 24, 2010, Stratford, PEI – Interim Equality Report Card Launch*
  Council launched an Interim Equality Report Card update on trends, indicating that government is making progress towards improved grades on the 2011 Equality Report Card. Special guest Betty Healey, author of *Me First: If I Should Wake Before I Die*, joined Council for lunch.
- *October 15, 2010, Montague, PEI – Kitchen Table Consultations*
  Council members discussed the two Kitchen Table Consultations that had already taken place and informally evaluated the process. Researcher Lori Mayne joined the Council as a resource. The Chairperson and Executive Director provided updates on the National Coalition of Advisory Councils, and the Purple Ribbon Coordinator gave an overview of the upcoming 2010 campaign.
- *December 6, 2010 – Charlottetown, PEI – Montreal Massacre Memorial*
  Council participated actively in Charlottetown's memorial service for victims of the December 6, 1989, Montreal Massacre. Three Council members completed their terms on Council and were recognized with service awards.

- *February 17, 2011, Charlottetown, PEI – Family Violence Prevention Week*
  Council members participated in the Walk in Silence for Victims of Family Violence from Province House to Charlottetown City Hall and evaluated the 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign.
- *March 15, 2011, Cornwall, PEI – Orientation for New Members*
  Council welcomed four new members to the table and staff and returning members provided an orientation to Council's work and a workshop on interest-based approaches to the Equality Report Card.

Council Strategic Planning, 2010–2011

- Carrying on its commitment to ongoing strategic planning, the Advisory Council began a new round of internal processes to set priorities for the coming years. Chairperson Isabelle Christian had closed the 2009-2010 year by making a case for resources for planning during an orientation meeting with Hon. Janice Sherry, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. The budget submission for 2011-2012 requested dedicated resources for planning.
- In December 2010, the Chairperson and staff began work on strategic and operational plans with consultant Julie Devon Dodd. This work continued into 2011 and resulted in draft materials to present to Advisory Council members during 2011–2012 meetings.

Members

Members of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women members are appointed by government's Executive Council, selected from among Island women who have demonstrated a commitment to women's equality. Women self-nominate for inclusion on Council through the "Participate PEI" program.

Members usually represent regional, cultural, and ethnic diversity, including groups such as women of colour and young, lesbian, Aboriginal, Francophone, disabled, low-income, and senior women. Council members are appointed for two- and three-year terms and may serve a maximum total of five years.

In 2010, Sister Norma Gallant, Sadie MacKenzie, and Roseanne Sark completed their maximum terms on the Advisory Council. Andie Bulman resigned to attend graduate school. In 2011, Executive Council confirmed the Advisory Council's nomination of Gwyn Davies as Vice-Chairperson, and the Advisory Council elected Marcia Enman as Treasurer. In March 2011, government's Executive Council appointed four new members: Eileen Brown Wilt, Diane Kays, Louise MacLeod, and Kelly Robinson.

Isabelle Christian, Stratford — Chairperson
Council term: June 13, 2006, to June 13, 2011
Chairperson's term: January 29, 2008, to June 13, 2011
Isabelle Christian brings to Council her extensive experience as an educator in the school system and in adult learning and development, as well as a deep concern for the quality of women's lives. Her recent career has focused on finding ways to recognize and credit the skills and knowledge that adults acquire through non-formal learning. During 2010, she has been facilitating learning with older adults who wish to reintegrate into or remain in the labour force. Isabelle resides with her husband Gerard, in Stratford. They have three grown children and two grandchildren.

Gwyn Davies, Gairloch — Vice-Chairperson (from December 2010 on)
Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2012
Vice-Chairperson's term: December 31, 2010, to December 31, 2012
Gwyn Davies is dedicated to working for women and children experiencing violence and fear of violence. Gwyn is the Outreach Worker for Eastern PEI for Family Violence Prevention Services. She has been working in the field of violence prevention since 1985, at Anderson House and Outreach Services in Eastern PEI. Gwyn is a mother of three grown daughters. She lives with her husband in Gairloch, where they have a home-based business raising turkeys.

Marcia Enman, Wellington — Treasurer (from Feb. 2011)
Council term: June 17, 2009, to June 13, 2012
Marcia Enman is the general manager and editor of *La Voix acadienne*, the only French-language newspaper on Prince Edward Island. She has been with the paper since 1978 and continues to work to develop the publication that serves the Acadian and Francophone community of PEI. Among her community and volunteer activities, Marcia is vice-president of *L'Association de la presse francophone* and is a village councillor for the Wellington Village Municipal Council. Marcia also sits on the Junior Achievement of PEI Board as a selection committee member. Marcia remains very interested in *Actions Femmes*, the francophone organization that represents views and works closely with the Acadian and francophone women on the Island and acts as a liaison between this group and the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Marcia is a single mother of one daughter and lives in Wellington.

Susan Connolly, Breadalbane — Member
Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2012
Susan Connolly of Charlottetown is a member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of Prince Edward Island. She practices Corporate and Commercial Law at Stewart McKelvey in Charlottetown.

Pauline Thomson, Canoe Cove — Member

Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2012

Pauline Thomson of Canoe Cove has worked as a child care specialist at the Anderson House Emergency Shelter and as a Kindergarten Program Supervisor at the Y.M.C.A. in Charlottetown. She was the International Volunteer of the Year (PEI) recipient (2001), and recently was a volunteer with the Hospice Palliative Care Unit – Prince Edward Home. She is a member of the Canoe Cove Women's Institute.

Louise MacLeod, Uigg — Member

Council term: March 1, 2011, to March 1, 2014

Louise MacLeod worked many years as a nurse and nurse supervisor, a case worker with Protestant Family Services Bureau, and a teacher in adult education. These work experiences made her very aware of the many challenges women face. She has been an active volunteer with Women's Institute, United Church Women, PEI Volunteers for Literacy, 4-H, and other organizations, and she has served on boards for Human Resources Development Canada appeals, Orwell Corner Historic Village, and the Sir Andrew Macphail Homestead. She and her husband Arnold raised a son, a daughter, and a foster daughter and have always been involved in the care of family members and neighbours.

Kelly Robinson, Stratford — Member

Council term: March 1, 2011, to March 1, 2014

Kelly Robinson is Program Coordinator at Community Legal Information Association (CLIA). She serves as Vice President on the Board of the PEI Rape & Sexual Assault Centre. Her working and volunteer career has focused on social justice issues with a focus on women, persons with intellectual disabilities, Aboriginal peoples, sexual abuse survivors, and family violence. She has a Masters degree in Theory, Culture and Politics from Trent University and will be graduating with a diploma in Conflict Resolution Studies from UPEI in 2011. She lives in Stratford with her menagerie of two cats, a one-eyed gerbil, and a budgie.

Eileen Brown Wilt, O'Leary — Member

Council term: March 1, 2011, to March 1, 2014

Eileen Brown Wilt worked in the banking business prior to 21 years' employment with the Workers Compensation Board of PEI. She retired from the Board in January 2011. Eileen has been involved in many volunteer organizations, including the Canadian Cancer Society, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Allied Youth, Meals on Wheels, and Community Schools. An active union member, she served on numerous UPSE Committees including the Education Committee (as Chair). She was a member of the UPSE Civil

Service Negotiating Team for the past six agreements. She has also served on the National Union (NUPGE) Women's Committee and the National Union's Champions for Change Campaign. She is a board member for the West Point Development Corporation and a member of Local 19 UPSE Retiree's Group. Her interests include all levels of politics, equality rights, reading, travelling, collecting sea glass, and antique buildings.

Diane Kays, Charlottetown — Member

Council term: March 1, 2011, to March 1, 2014

Diane Kays received her BA from Saint Dunstan's University (1969) and her MSW from Dalhousie University's School of Social Work (1971). Diane's career focused on "Issues of Violence Against Women and Children" and "Trauma Related to Childhood Abuse." Along with being a therapist/counsellor, Diane also taught Social Work students, served on numerous community committees, developed and published programs related to violence against women, and has been an activist for issues related to women and their families. Diane moved back to PEI from Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 2002 and continued to practice until her retirement in 2009. Diane lives in Charlottetown.

Andie Bulman, Charlottetown — Vice-Chairperson (to June 2010) *Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2010 – Resigned June 2010*
Vice-Chairperson's term: June 13, 2009, to June 2010
Andie Bulman of Charlottetown has been actively involved in equality work at the UPEI campus including involvement at the UPEI Women's Centre, coordination of the PEIACSW Purple Ribbon Pinning Bee at UPEI, and had organized an International Women's Day Concert Fundraiser where a female cast entertained and raised funds for the PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre.

Sadie MacKenzie, Montague — Treasurer (to Dec. 2010)
Council term: July 13, 2005, to December 31, 2010
Sadie MacKenzie of Montague worked in a nursing home for 22 years as a nursing attendant and activities coordinator. She was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels and spent a term on Montague Town Council. She has three grown children. She currently works with the PEI Liquor Control Commission. She brings to Council her insight into the special challenges of women in abusive relationships in small Island communities.

Sister Norma Gallant, Wellington — Member
Council term: July 13, 2005, to December 31, 2010
Norma Gallant is a Francophone woman from the Evangeline area involved in issues related to equality locally, regionally, provincially, and nationally for 30 years. She has been involved with issues such as teen dating; elder abuse; equality for women and men in church ministries in the French sector; abuse and harassment in sports; assistance for women to prepare Victim Impact Statements; self-esteem. She does training in the Language of the Gifts of Character. She serves on the PEI Senior Citizens' Federation Board and presides on their Housing sub-committee, serves on the PEI Victim Services Advisory Committee, and works with the Evangeline Community Consultative group in Crime Prevention through Social Development.

Roseanne Sark, Summerside — Member
Council term: July 13, 2005, to December 31, 2010
Roseanne Sark, a member of the Lennox Island First Nation, is a Health Policy Analyst with the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI. Roseanne is a mother of two. She has a BA from Carleton University and is also certified with Reality Therapy. She has worked in the field of family violence prevention, research, recreation, cultural promotion and facilitation for various organizations including the Native Women's Association of

Canada, Lennox Island First Nation, Department of Veterans Affairs, Human Resources Development Canada and the Mi'kmaq Family Resource Centre. Over the years Roseanne has been part of numerous volunteer committees and executive boards.

Roseanne Sark, Sr. Norma Gallant, and Sadie MacKenzie receive Service Awards from Isabelle Christian after completing their terms as members of the Advisory Council.

Advisory Council members as of December 2010: Norma Gallant, Isabelle Christian, Marcia Enman, Roseanne Sark, Sadie MacKenzie, Sue Connolly, Pauline Thomson, and Gwyn Davies.

Staff

The Advisory Council had two full-time and one part-time permanent staff members in 2010–2011. The Advisory Council hires one additional staff member on contract for project coordination, especially the Purple Ribbon Campaign, and to cover leaves.

Lisa Murphy, Executive Director

Lisa joined Council staff in May 1990. She resigned as Director in May 2000 and was asked to return to directing Council in May 2004. She works full-time.

Jane Ledwell, Researcher/Policy Analyst

Jane worked on contract for Council from 2000 to 2001. She returned in June 2004 to work full-time in research and policy analysis. She returned from a year's maternity and parental leave in November 2010.

Becky Tramley, Office Administrator
Becky joined Council in October 1986 and works part-time.

Sandy Kowalik
Sandy works on a contract basis at the Council as project support and Purple Ribbon Campaign coordinator. Sandy also assisted covering Jane's leave until November 2010.

Staff Development

- Staff members Lisa Murphy and Jane Ledwell are both participating in the STEPS for Women training program in interest-based conflict resolution. Two-dozen participants from organizations that work with vulnerable women across the Island are receiving training towards a certificate in conflict resolution. Each participant will also lead a project to share interest-based skills with vulnerable women. Courses offered as part of STEPS this year included the following:
    - Interest-Based Planning
    - Applied Ethics in Conflict Resolution
    - At the End of Your Rope: Unravelling Your Role in Conflict Solving
    - Interest-Based Facilitation and Negotiation
    - Understanding Conflict Through Personality Types
    - Understanding Power Imbalances
    - Advanced Practice Seminar

  Two Advisory Council members, Gwyn Davies (Family Violence Prevention Services Outreach) and Kelly Robinson (Community Legal Information Association), also participated in the STEPS training, representing their paid-work organizations.

National Coalition of Advisory Councils

The National Coalition of Provincial and Territorial Advisory Councils on the Status of Women was formed in 1995 to provide a venue for strategic action on issues of concern to Canadian women. The Coalition formed when the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women ceased that same year, leaving a gap in national advocacy. The PEI Advisory Council is joined in the Coalition by similar women's Advisory Councils from other regions of Canada.

List of Major Coalition Activities, 2010–2011

- The National Coalition of Advisory Councils met in Quebec City September 27-29, 2010. Chairperson Isabelle Christian and Executive Director Lisa Murphy attended on behalf of the PEI Council.
- Planning for the annual meeting is done jointly among members through e-mail and conference calls. Sessions included the following:
    - Sharing of innovative practices with representatives from Advisory Councils from other Provinces and Territories.
    - Discussion on the role of the National Coalition.
    - Planning for education and actions on issues of national significance to women, especially polygamy and changes to laws on prostitution.
    - Strategies to lobby justice ministers on issues important to women.

- For 2011, the Coalition Chairperson is Linda Ross (Newfoundland and Labrador), and the next meeting will be hosted by Nova Scotia.
- The National Coalition coordinated responses to emerging issues such as threats to the national long-gun registry, issues regarding training for judges on gender-based violence, and cuts to the federal funding for the Sisters in Spirit project.
- In March 2011, the New Brunswick government abolished the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women, and the National Coalition spoke out strongly against this action. The Chairperson and Executive Director of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women attended and spoke at a protest rally in support of the New Brunswick Advisory Council in Moncton, New Brunswick.

POLICY AND RESEARCH

Equality Report Card

Since its inception, the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women has made recommendations to government for changes in policy and legislation to benefit the lives of Island women, girls, and their families. They have shared recommendations with government through the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and other officials in Policy Guides, correspondence, briefings, submissions, and meetings, both independently and in partnership with other equality-seeking organizations.

The Advisory Council published a pilot Equality Report Card in 2008 to assess government's progress towards implementing recommendations related to women's equality in PEI. In June 2009, Council followed up with a second Equality Report Card, based on a refined process. The next Equality Report Card will be released in June 2011, using results from 2009 as benchmarks. Council published an interim trends report in 2010. No grades were given in the trends report.

Interim Trends Report, June 2010

- On June 24, the Advisory Council launched an interim report on the trends, with updates of government action on each of Council's priority areas. The

interim report indicated a trend towards improved overall grades in 2011, and improved grades in all categories except Women's Health.

- The 2010 Interim Report Card highlighted three priority areas where Council members will be looking for action:
  1) Supported transitions in early childhood care and education
  2) Action on government promises (Special Committee on the Role of the MLA, Domestic Violence Court option, and Poverty Reduction Strategy)
  3) Action to apply gender- and diversity-based analysis
- To prepare the Interim Report, Council members and staff monitored media, public statements, and published documents. Government departments were given the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft report.

Preparation for the 2011 Equality Report Card

- Council staff mailed out 2011 Report Card priorities, grading criteria, and proposed timelines to ministers, deputy ministers, departmental representatives, and Council members.
- At the beginning of 2011, Council staff sent out customized questionnaires to all government departments.
- Council submitted written input on budget implications of Equality Report Card priorities for the 2011-2012 Province Budget process.

Other Research and Policy Work

In addition to developing the Equality Report Card and assessing the priority issues for action in that document, in 2010–2011, Council also submitted briefing documents to a number of public consultation processes that the government had initiated. Council's submissions on these issues build on past policy recommendations to government. They are developed with consultation and approval of Council members and, whenever possible, with community organizations with a shared interest in the issue.

Highlights of Other Research and Policy Work, 2010–2011

- Submission to the review of the Social Assistance Act. The Standing Committee on Health, Social Development and Seniors undertook a review of the Social Assistance Act and invited a submission from the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women. A draft of this submission was published in April 2010, and a more detailed paper was prepared to support the Advisory Council Executive Director's presentation to the Standing Committee on November 10.
- Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst co-wrote a book chapter with UPEI professor Dr. Colleen MacQuarrie: "Social Justice: The Transformative Value of Community Organizations Influencing Public Policy."

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Enquiries and Referrals

The Advisory Council responds to enquiries from individuals, groups, and government on a variety of questions and issues. These range from requests for statistical information to referrals, crisis calls, and requests for advocacy. People make enquiries in person, by telephone, by e-mail, and by correspondence. Requests for information in crisis situations are often complex and often come from women who have unsuccessfully tried to get information or service elsewhere. The Advisory Council does not have the mandate or resources to provide services or to advocate for individual women; however, it offers support with information, referrals, and, at times, interventions with formal systems. The concerns women raise in individual enquiries often lead to policy analysis by Council to address underlying systemic discrimination.

About Enquiries

- Requests for the Council publication *Moving On: A Practical Guide for Women Leaving a Relationship* continued to be frequent. Relationship break-ups

continue to be vulnerable times for women, with effects on their physical, emotional, and financial safety and security. They report challenges negotiating custody and access and child and spousal support issues, in particular poor or ineffective maintenance enforcement. Women called the PEI Status of Women office for advice on all kinds of same-sex/different-sex, common-law, dating relationship, and marital breakups. Women identified needs including access to legal aid, safety planning, and assistance for couples with adult dependants. Some needs are met by existing provincial programs and services; some are not.

- Enquiries related to concerns about provincial government laws, policies, or programs included delays in paying caregiver help to woman on social assistance, questions about PEI's gender-based analysis framework, resources for a young abused immigrant woman, access to abortion services, need for a Child and Youth Advocate, request for verbal abuse statistics, concerns about the Eastern School Board, concern about a city councillor given a stay-away order, and support for our call for a code of conduct for elected officials,
- National and inter-provincial issues identified by callers included behaviour of federal Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, EI eligibility if laid off after returning from a caregiving leave, and information on Canadian suffrage.
- General enquiries covered issues such as resources for women and girls in government, volunteer opportunities for women, resources for homeless women and women with housing challenges, the need for a support group for

victims of sexual assault, advice on providing child and elder care at events, and supports for young lesbian women and their families (to end homophobic bullying).

- Referrals were frequently made to the PEI Lawyer Referral Service: the majority of women who call the Advisory Council need to consult a lawyer and do not have the resources to do so.
- Referrals are sometimes made to the PEI Human Rights Commission. This year, women identified human rights they felt had been violated due to sexual harassment, gender discrimination, or disability.
- Referrals are made to Family Violence Prevention Services and the Rape and Sexual Assault Centre in cases where violence or sexual abuse/assault occur.
- There was at least one referral made for Turning Point this year.

Media

The Advisory Council regularly submits news releases and opinion pieces to the media. The Council also responds to media requests for comment and analysis on issues that affect the lives of women and families. Ordinarily, the approved spokespersons on behalf of the Council are the Chairperson, the Executive Director, and the Researcher/Policy Analyst.

News Releases, 2010–2011

- Celebrating 25 Years of Section 15 in the Charter of Rights (April 15)
- First Woman Chairperson of Human Rights Commission (April 22)
- Interim Report Points to Improved Grades for Government / L'action du gouvernement devrait donner de meilleurs résultats en 2011 (June 24)
- Persons Day 2010 (October 18)
- Facing Facts about Violence: 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign / La Campagne du ruban violet : examinons les faits (November 25)

Letters to the Editor and Opinion Pieces, 2010–2011

- Steps in the Right Direction (June 30)
- Support for the Long-Gun Registry (September 17)
- Code of Conduct Long Overdue (November 21)
- Sixteen Days for Human Rights (December 6)

- Facts Support Family Violence Prevention (February 14)
- Everyday Challenges for International Women's Day (March 8)

News Conferences, 2010–2011

- News conference for release of Interim Report Card (June 24)

Interview Requests, 2010–2011

- Re: sexual harassment accusation against an MLA (October 26-27 – *Guardian*, CBC Radio news and MainStreet interviews, CBC Television news and Compass interviews)
- Re: Social Assistance Act review (November 10: *Guardian*)
- Re: Eastern School District Board of Trustees (November 22-30 – CBC Radio)
- Re: Purple Ribbon Campaign and Memorial Service (December 6 – *Guardian*, *La Voix acadienne* CBC Radio and Television, K-Rock Radio)
- Re: College de l'Acadie bursary recipient (January 5 – *La Voix acadienne*)
- Re: International Women's Day Art Exhibition (March 8 – CBC Radio and TV)
- Background information only: access to social assistance (December 17 – CBC Radio), hypersexualization of girls and women (January 13 – CTV)

Website & Blog

- Status of Women staff independently manages content of the Advisory Council Website at http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw
- Whenever possible, news releases and publications are made available on-line at the Website as soon as they are released.
- The ACSW set up a weblog in October 2007 at http://peiacsw.wordpress.com. From April 1, 2010, to March 31, 2011:
    - People made over 18,780 visits to the blog – an average of 1,565 visits a month and an overall total increase of more than 5,000 visits over the previous year.
    - The most visited individual page was for the Equality Report Card, with over 850 visits. In total, Community Notices received over 2,000 visits.
    - The most-used referring site was our http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw site. The next top referrer: postings on Facebook.

Council Activities Updates

Council maintains two mailing lists: one for traditional mailings and the other for electronic mailings. Members of the traditional mailing list numbered over 700 by the end of the fiscal year. They receive *Activities Updates* and special Council publications and promotions.

The approximately 250 members of the electronic mailing list receive a weekly listing of community events and notices. These notices are also available to the general public through the Status of Women's blog: peiacsw.wordpress.com.

Activities Updates, 2010–2011

- *Activities Update*, Fall/Winter 2010
- *Activities Update*, IWD 2011

Mail-outs, 2010–2011

- Purple Ribbon Campaign materials (November 2010)
- International Women's Day materials (February 2011)

COMMUNITY LIAISON

Meetings and Correspondence on Issues

Advisory Council members and staff attend many meetings and consultations representing the Advisory Council each year. Often, what Council learns in these meetings helps set priorities for Council.

Sometimes, in lieu of meeting with officials, the Advisory Council offers analysis in correspondence on issues of concern.

Meetings with Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, 2010–2011

- Council Chairperson and staff meetings with Hon. Janice Sherry, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. Meetings with the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women are supported by a memorandum outlining issues and presenting analysis.
    - July 29, 2010: Topics included follow-up to the Interim Equality Report Card, Council appointments, and National Coalition of Advisory Councils business.
    - February 2, 2011: Topics included codes of conduct for elected officials, Council business, and an Equality Report Card status update.

Other Selected Meetings, 2010–2011

- Phone, e-mail, and in-person consultations with the Director of the Interministerial Women's Secretariat (regular and ongoing)
- Executive Director briefing for Senator Catherine Callbeck or her office (with all Council members, December 6; regular consultation, by phone or e-mail)
- Meeting with Status of Women Canada project officers (June 8)
- Meeting with representatives of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in follow-up to Interim Report Card (June 29)
- Meeting with Executive Director of Women's Network (July 13)
- Meeting with Executive Director of East Prince Women's Information Centre (July 27)
- Meeting with UPSE regarding sex-specific job categories (September 23)

Selected Correspondence on Issues, 2010–2011

- Letter of welcome and bookmark gift for Girls' Parliament participants (Equality Day, April 17)
- Letter to Premier Robert Ghiz on non-inclusive language in the newly official provincial anthem, "The Island Hymn" (May 5)
- Letter to Department of Justice official commending actions regarding a judgment on violence (August 3)

- Memo to PEI federal Members of Parliament summarizing federal issues of concern: Bill C-391 on the gun registry, mandatory long-form census, maternal health in PEI, Bill-378 on Employment Insurance, and the National Coalition of Advisory Councils on the Status of Women (September 15)
- Letter of support for the Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities (September 24)
- Letter to Minister Sherry regarding need for gender analysis of challenges at the Eastern School Board (November 25)
- Letter to Minister Sherry regarding appointments and re-appointments to the Advisory Council (December 7)
- Letter to the Legislative Management Committee calling for a code of conduct for elected officials (December 14)
- Letter to Charlottetown Mayor regarding reassigning a Councillor under a stay-away order (January 30)
- Nomination of a past Council member for the Order of Prince Edward Island (March 25)

Community Consultations

In 2007, Council members initiated formal community consultations, focusing on groups of women that work on behalf of rural women and women under-represented in provincial debate.

Community Consultations, 2010–2011

- **Kitchen Table Consultations**
  The Advisory Council Executive Director initiated a new process in 2010 for Council members to lead Kitchen Table Consultations. These grassroots community consultations will include Council members and their community organizations, neighbours, or friends. Data will be compiled and will guide recommendations from the Advisory Council to the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. The theme for the first set of consultations was "Helping Government Hear the Voices of Island Women" – increasing women's civic engagement. Two consultations took place: one in Breadalbane hosted by Council member Sue Connolly and one in Summerside hosted by Council member Roseanne Sark.

Events

Advisory Council members and staff participate in community-led events whenever possible. The Advisory Council's role at events is often to bring a gender and diversity perspective to the event: to share research and perspectives on how the issues being discussed may affect women differently from men or positively or negatively affect diverse groups. Council representatives' special roles at events are noted where relevant.

Selected Events, 2010–2011

- International Tea House (April 2)
- Stomp Out Violence Cross-Country Run launch (April 19) and lunch meeting with Dr. Roz Roach (April 19)
- Adult Basic Education and Island Prosperity panel (April)
- Caring Coast-to-Coast Roundtable (May 6)
- Be Her Or Support Her: Women's Campaign School, Moncton, New Brunswick (May 8)
- Voices and Faces of Sexual Assault presentation (May 13)
- Life Beyond Shelter Walls, YWCA Canada conference call (May 21)
- Hilda Ramsay Day Fundraiser (June 18)
- Poor No More documentary (July 14)
- Girls Unlimited Conference (July 21)

- Andrea Burge Golf Tournament fundraiser (August 26)
- PEI Literacy Alliance AGM (September 8)
- PEI Cultural Forum (September 24)
- PEI Businesswomen's Association Mixer (October 6)
- Anderson House Capital Fund Fundraising Concert (October 16)
- Ultimate Girls Night Out fundraiser (October 29)
- PEI Businesswomen's Assoc. Embracing Change Symposium (November 2)
- Goddesses for Good fundraiser (November 3)
- Communities in Action: Collaboration and Crime Prevention conference (November 4)
- Farming and Fishing: The Current Scene, Root Causes, and Action Planning, PEI Food Security Network workshop (November 15 – *Policy Analyst as a rapporteur*)
- *Women in PEI 2010: A Statistical Review* release (November 17)
- Getting the Nomination – Coalition for Women in Government workshop (November 17)
- Social Economy Research Network presentations (November 17)
- Freezing for Warmth – Native Council event (November 25 – *Chairperson as a speaker*)
- Provincial Forum on the Abuse of Older Adults (November 26)
- Anderson House Reopening (November 30)
- World AIDS Day Vigil (December 1)

- Announcements and Act to Amend School Board legislation (December 3)
- Engaging Men and Boys in Preventing Violence Against Women workshop (December 8)
- Coalition for Women in Government Late New Year's Levee (February 3)
- Healthy, Affordable Food for All – Food Security Network workshop and AGM (February 16 – *Policy Analyst as a rapporteur*)
- Women's Rights and Climate Change – Sierra Club Lunch and Learn (March 4)
- Using Social Media in Political Campaigns – Coalition for Women in Government workshop (March 5)
- International Women's Day Centenary Art Exhibit opening (March 5)
- Women's Health and Women's Status: National and Global Perspectives Webcast (March 8)
- International Women's Day 100th Anniversary Concert (March 8)
- International Women's Day Potluck and Celebration (March 9)
- Family Violence Education for Professionals (March 30)
- Protest Rally in Support of the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women (March 31)

Partnerships

Partnerships involve commitment to participate in the work of coalitions, task forces, research projects, and other community or collectively led activities. Council's policy development process relies on collaboration with and advice from organizations that are leading change on issues important to women and families. Sometimes, Council uses partnerships as a means of educating groups in the community about gender-based analysis and women's experiences and perspectives. Participating actively as partners on projects is also an important way that the Advisory Council contributes to other community groups' ability to do their work: the Advisory Council has a responsibility to help press forward recommendations over the longer term for groups that have short-term or project-based funding.

List and Description of Partnerships, 2010-2011

- **Ad Hoc Abortion Rights Committee**: Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst sits on this new committee, which came together to ensure women have accurate and neutral information about where and how to access abortion services. *ACSW Role*: Attending occasional meetings, examining provincial policies, assisting with communication strategies.

- **Ad Hoc Provincial Human Rights Consultative Group**: Council's ED and/or Researcher/Policy Analyst sit on this occasional committee of provincial officials who contribute suggestions for PEI's reports on and reviews of various United Nations human rights conventions.
  ACSW role: Providing input on women's rights as implicated under UN conventions; contributing to discussions regarding conventions including the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- **Adult Education Advisory Committee**: Council's Chairperson sits on this Holland College-led committee to provide advice on programs for adult education through the College.
  ACSW role: Attending twice-yearly meetings and providing advice from a community and gender perspective on directions for adult education.
- **Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities:** The Advisory Council is a partner in and Council's ED serves on the advisory committee for the project "Building Leadership Capacity Among Women and Girls in Atlantic Canada for Action on Underlying Conditions Impacting Their Lives, Their Families and Communities" to develop young and emerging female leaders.
  ACSW role: Attending video-conference meetings; advising on content for programming and events; contributing gender-based analysis.

- **Elizabeth Fry Society**: Council staff helped to support a group seeking to establish a branch of the Elizabeth Fry Society on Prince Edward Island. Across Canada, these societies work with and for women and girls in the justice system, particularly those who are, or may be, criminalized. The group setting up on Prince Edward Island saw some barriers to getting established and decided to take smaller preliminary steps before regrouping formally.
  ACSW role: The ACSW attended planning meetings, reviewed project proposals, designed a logo, and offered in-kind space and office support.
- **Girls Unlimited Planning Committee**: The Council's ED sat on the planning committee for this Women's Network-led project for events to increase self-esteem in girls, ages 10-14, and to work against early sexualization and oversexualization of girls.
  ACSW role: Attending and assisting with meetings, workshops, and events.
- **IWS Grant Adjudication Committee:** Council's ED sits on this committee to review applications and advise the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women on community grants, awarded by the Province where the organizations, principles, objectives, and activities of applicants support the legal, health, social, and economic equality of women.
  ACSW role: Helping to design assessment tools; reviewing applications; helping the committee to decide on recommendations.

- **Justice Options for Women**: The Council ED serves on the advisory committee for this project. Justice Options creates opportunities for community dialogue and input into justice policy regarding the issues of violence against women and the impact on and of restorative justice, in the context of justice options for women victims of violence, as a necessary next step in encouraging and developing safe and effective responses to violence against women in PEI. Justice Options manages a Status of Women Canada-funded project for Circles of Safety and Support, to create circles of community support and safety around identified women who face very serious risk of violence.
  ACSW role: Participating in meetings to set directions and develop project plans and funding applications; reviewing videos, products and publications; supporting Circles of Safety and Support.
- **LEAF National and LEAF PEI (Women's Legal Education and Action Fund):** Council ED provides continuity in the local link to LEAF, a leading national equality and legal-related organization. LEAF works towards ensuring the law guarantees substantive equality for all women in Canada and has since 1985 intervened in over 150 cases to help establish landmark legal victories for women on issues such as violence against women, sexual assault, workplace inequities, socio-economic rights, and reproductive freedoms.
  ACSW role: Coordinating local meetings; providing in-kind supports to LEAF PEI as needed; providing annual update on PEI LEAF activities for national AGM; assisting with ED evaluation and selection for Leadership Awards;

managing banking and communications; collaboratively developing project and funding applications; co-hosting events.

- **Mayor of Charlottetown's Purple Ribbon Task Force on Family Violence Prevention**: The Council ED (and, when possible, Purple Ribbon Coordinator) sit on this task force which works with the community on family violence prevention initiatives funded by the City of Charlottetown, under the banner "Peace Begins at Home" and incorporating the purple ribbon symbol.
  ACSW role: Consulting, planning, and assisting with projects and public events; providing graphic design and content for publication materials; assisting with planning and promotions for workshops by Dr. Michael Kaufman.
- **Moving On, New Beginnings Project**: Council's ED is a liaison to this Adventure Group project for vulnerable women who may offend or reoffend.
  ACSW role: Attending meetings; offering advice and support.
- **PEI Coalition for Women in Government**: Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst sits as a non-partisan member on this multi-partisan coalition that works to increase the number and proportion of women in elected positions in PEI.
  ACSW role: Helping to develop and execute workplans; contributing to creating, polishing, and disseminating research, media work, and publications.
- **PEI Food Security Network**: Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst participates in this action and education network to improve Islanders' food security (access

to adequate affordable, healthy, culturally appropriate and personally acceptable food within a food system that supports producers).
ACSW role: Participating in meetings, workshops, and events; contributing gender analysis; taking part in evaluation; serving on a working group; assisting with the Website; assisting with note-taking and reports as needed.

- **PEI Public Transit Coalition**: Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst serves on the steering committee of this coalition to advocate for Island-wide public transit.
ACSW role: Attending steering committee meetings; ensuring the Coalition maintains an understanding of gender and equality dimensions of transit issues; advising on projects and publications; participating in briefs to government; and promoting public transit.
- **PEI Working Group for a Livable Income**: Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst serves on this coalition of a dozen community organizations that are active in working to counter poverty and advocate for a livable income for all Islanders to live in good health and with dignity.
ACSW role: Participating in monthly meetings and occasional special events or presentations; developing recommendations to government on poverty elimination; contributing perspectives on women's poverty; taking minutes for meetings; taking our turn with other organizations to draft publications, correspondence, media releases, and briefs to government.

- **Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention (PAC)**: Council's Executive Director is appointed by the Premier to sit on this committee and its Administrative Group. PAC's mandate includes coordinating implementation of the provincial Family Violence Prevention Strategy.
  ACSW role: Attending full group and administrative meetings; assisting in providing direction for the five-year strategy; researching and writing for handbook; contributing to governance tools, especially tools and models for building consensus; advocating for a focus on violence against women and other gender and equality roots of violence; assisting with graphic design.

- **Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network**: Council's Researcher/Policy Analyst is part of the PEI Empowerment and Inclusion sub-node of this Mt. St. Vincent University-led community/university research alliance. The Network completed its work in 2010.
  ACSW role: Participating in the Network's learning events; ensuring a gender lens on projects; contributing to conferences and publications.

- **Victim Services Advisory Committee**: Council's ED co-chaired this committee until the end of her term in 2010. The committee's purpose is to exchange information on current and emerging issues related to victims and to help develop policy, programs, services, and legislation and report to the Attorney General and government officials on the needs of victims of crime.
  ACSW role: Co-chairing committee; sharing information, especially from a gender perspective; identifying and bringing issues to the table for discussion.

Leadership in Annual Events

Persons Day – October 18

October 18 each year recognizes the date that women in Canada were first acknowledged as "persons" under the law in 1929, after the efforts of pioneering women. Being declared "persons" made women eligible for Senate appointments and other legal rights.

Highlights from Persons Day, 2010

- On October 18, 2010, Lieutenant Governor Her Honour Barbara Hagerman hosted a reception at Government House to celebrate the Anniversary of the Persons Case.
- LEAF PEI partnered with the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women in assisting the Lieutenant Governor's Office with this event.
- Guest speakers at the reception included Daphne Dumont, Q.C., recipient of the 2009 Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case and founding member of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF), Hon. Janice Sherry, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, and Lisa Murphy, chairperson of LEAF PEI.

Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence

December 6 is the National Day of Remembrance and Action to commemorate the murder of 14 female engineering students in Montreal in 1989. Every year, the Advisory Council's Purple Ribbon Campaign involves volunteers Island-wide in the effort to distribute ribbons and information cards with facts and statistics about family violence. Islanders are encouraged to wear the purple ribbon on or near December 6, and again during Family Violence Prevention Week in February, to remember all women who are victims of violence. The Advisory Council also organizes a noontime December 6 Memorial Service in Charlottetown.

Purple Ribbon Campaign Highlights, 2010

- **Theme**: *Facing Facts: Stop the Violence / Les faits sont clairs : la violence doit cesser*
- **Campaign Launch:** Chairperson Isabelle Christian launched the 2010 Campaign on November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, at the Native Council's Freezing for Warmth event.
- **Number of ribbons/cards distributed**: 24,000 English and French cards
- **Teachers' Resource Guides**
    - TEACHERS GUIDES for Grade 7 Social Studies and Grade 9 Health, with curriculum connections and resources on violence against women.

    - HANDOUTS: Background on the Purple Ribbon Campaign, 20 Ways Young People Can Help End Violence; Timeline: 20 Years After the Montreal Massacre; Charting Changes for Women and Men Over 20 Years; "For Montreal, a poem by Tanya Davis; and "Sisters Remembered," a painting by Lisa Murphy.
    - To enrich linkages with educators, the Purple Ribbon Coordinator attended the PEI Teachers' Federation Annual Convention and shared resources through a display (October 14-15)
- **Campaign Highlights**: In 2010, many groups across the Island organized events during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence (November 25 to Human Rights Day, December 1). Groups such as SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere), the Native Council of PEI, PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre, Holland College, UPEI Diversity Office, UPEI SAVE, and the Province put on events. Memorial services took place in O'Leary, Charlottetown, and Summerside (one in French and one in English).
- **Memorial Service**: The PEIACSW organized the Charlottetown Memorial Service held on Monday, December 6, in Memorial Hall at the Confederation Centre of the Arts. About 200 people attended the Charlottetown noontime service.
    - Isabelle Christian, chair of the ACSW, co-emceed the event with ACSW Council member Sister Norma Gallant.

- The guest speaker for the event was Dr. Michael Kaufman from the White Ribbon Campaign.
- Candle-lighters included Premier Robert Ghiz, Senator Catherine Callbeck, RCMP, City Police, and members of equality-seeking groups.
- Special contributions to the service included music by Dr. David Morrison and candle-lighting by Judy Crossman, sister of Carrie Ellen (McMurrer) Crossman, who was murdered in 1989.

- Financial and in-kind contributors to the Purple Ribbon Campaign included Premier Robert Ghiz, the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention, the Interministerial Women's Secretariat, City of Charlottetown, PEI Nurses' Union, PEI Teachers' Federation, Town of Stratford, Town of Souris, Employment Equity Committee, Quilting B & More, Hearts & Flowers, Senator Libbe Hubley, Lifebridge, Inc., and Confederation Centre of the Arts.
- Special efforts to contribute to the Campaign this year came from the PEI Women's Institute, Canada World Youth participants, and volunteers Francis Handrahan, Cindy Banks, Carolyn Ledwell, and Janine Cudmore.

Family Violence Prevention Week 2011

- Isabelle Christian published a commentary, "Facts Support Family Violence Prevention."
- Council's website and blog featured a fact a day on violence against women for the seven days of Family Violence Prevention Week.
- The Council provided 1,300 ribbons and resource handouts to two schools, Bluefield High School and Eliot River Elementary, for school-wide Family Violence Prevention Week events.
- The full Council participated in the second annual Walk in Silence for Victims of Family Violence.

International Women's Day – March 8

United Nations-declared International Women's Day (IWD) takes place on March 8 each year. Events on International Women's Day and throughout the week surrounding it recognize the ongoing struggle of women for equity, locally and globally. Often, International Women's Day events and education focus on women's equality in the workplace, since IWD's roots are in the labour movement. For IWD 2011, the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, Council representatives again joined with grassroots and labour organizations in an International Women's Day committee to coordinate events.

Highlights from International Women's Day, 2011

- The ACSW contributed to planning for the 100th Anniversary International Women's Day Celebration Concert hosted by EPWIC and held at the Harbourfront Theatre in Summerside on March 8. The Council ED attended the concert, and the Council Chairperson performed at the event as part of the Abegweit Chimes. In addition, the Council ED assisted with the IWD Centenary Art Exhibition at The Guild, March 1 to 12, and Chair and staff attended a potluck and round table event in Charlottetown on March 9.

- The Advisory Council published and mailed out a promotional newsletter with a message from Chairperson Isabelle Christian and information about province-wide events.

Bursaries for Women

Each year, the Advisory Council awards three bursaries for post-secondary education. The first and second of these bursaries go to two women to help them continue their studies at the University of Prince Edward Island and Holland College. The third bursary, named for late Council vice-chairperson Inge Blackett, supports ongoing studies for a woman who is a recent immigrant to Canada.For the first time in 2010, a bursary was also offered for a student at the Collège de l'Acadie.

Bursary Recipients, 2010

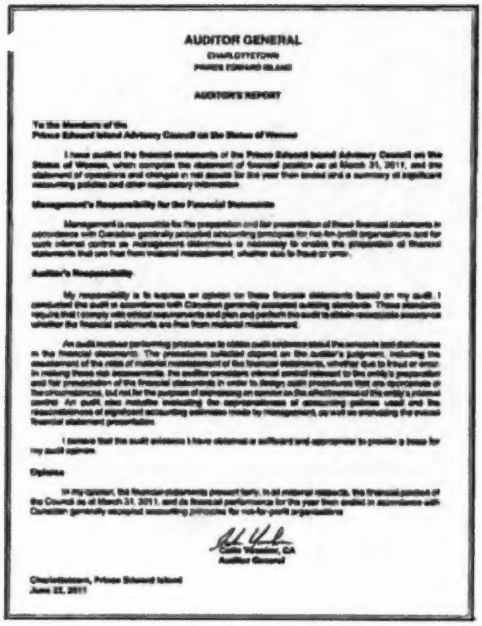
- Collège de l'Acadie: Melanie Chaisson
- University of Prince Edward Island Bursary: No applicants.
- Holland College Bursary: Barbara Forbes
- Inge Blackett Bursary: Pwaytha Kerhtoo

PUBLICATIONS LIST

The following is a summary list of publications mentioned above. These publications are usually available in hard copy from the Advisory Council or in electronic copy on its Website at http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw

- **Purple Ribbon Campaign 2010 Resource Guides for PEI Teachers** (November 2010). *Guides for Grade 7 and Grade 9 teachers for use with the 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign against Violence, with handouts and connections to Grade 7 Social Studies and Grade 9 Health curriculum.*
- **Equality Report Card Interim Trends Report / Fiche de rendement de l'égalité – Rapport intérimaire sur les tendances 2010** (June 2010). *A mid-term assessment of the trends in government's progress towards women's equality goals on Prince Edward Island halfway between the 2009 and 2011 Equality Report Cards.*
- **Submission to the Social Assistance Act Review (November 2010).** Advice to the Standing Committee on Health, Social Development and Seniors on changes to the Social Assistance Act.
- **Input into 2011 Provincial Budget Consultations** (February 2011). *A summary of possible budget implications for the 2011 Provincial Budget from the priority recommendations featured in the 2011 Equality Report Card project.*

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



AUDITOR GENERAL

CHARLOTTETOWN

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women

I have audited the financial statements of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011, and the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted the audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2011, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations.

Colin Younker, CA
Auditor General

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
June 22, 2011

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31, 2011

	2011 $	2010 $
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	57,581	6,828
Accounts receivable	719	734
Prepaid expenses	347	1,632
Total Assets	58,647	9,726
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	9,804	8,772
Deferred revenue	48,739	
	58,594	8,772
Net Assets	53	73
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	58,647	9,726

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL:

Chairperson: _____

Member: _____

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2011

	2011 $	2010 $
Revenue		
Grant - Province of Prince Edward Island (Note 4)	198,900	207,550
Program revenue	2,833	3,600
Other	297	
	202,030	211,150
Expenses		
Administration	10,549	12,404
Contracts	14,973	19,405
Council meetings/business	28,993	32,775
Capital assets (Note 3(c))	1,487	5,339
Materials and supplies	7,005	7,514
Salaries and benefits	149,553	143,168
	201,510	220,307
Excess revenue	20	1,930
Net assets, beginning of year	73	(1,857)
Net assets, end of year	53	73

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2011

1. Purpose of the Organization

The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women is a government appointed provincial advisory agency. The Council works for equality and supports women's full and active participation in social, legal, cultural and political spheres of life. The Council is a non taxable entity under the provisions of the *Income Tax Act*.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements.

a) Revenue

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for grants and other contributions. Restricted contributions received for purposes of future periods are deferred and recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenses are incurred. All other contributions are reported as revenue of the current period.

b) Expenses

Expenses are reported on an accrual basis in the period to which transactions or events that gave rise to the expenses occurred. Certain costs incurred by the Province on behalf of the Council are not reflected in these financial statements. These costs include rental of the Council's office and related expenses, employee future benefits and insurance expenses.

c) Capital Assets

The Council's capital assets include office furniture and equipment. Capital assets are expensed as acquired.

d) Employee Future Benefits

Permanent employees of the Council participate in the Province of Prince Edward Island Civil Service Superannuation Pension Plan (the Plan) which is a multi-employer contributory defined benefit pension plan. The Plan provides a pension on retirement based on two percent of the average salary for the highest three years times the number of years of pensionable service. The Plan is administered by the Province of Prince Edward Island. The Council's annual portion of the contributions to the Plan are paid by the Province and any unfunded liability is the responsibility of the Province and therefore no liability has been recognized in these financial statements.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2011

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued...)

e) Future Accounting Pronouncements

The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants has announced planned changes to current Canadian generally accepted accounting standards for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2011. Management is reviewing these changes and assessing the impact on future reporting.

3. Financial Instruments

All financial instruments reported on the statement of financial position of the Council are classified as follows:

Cash	Held for trading
Accounts receivable	Loans and receivables
Accounts payable	Other liabilities

Due to their short-term nature, all financial instruments are considered to be carried at amounts which approximate their fair value.

4. Provincial Grant

Provincial grants of $148,600 (2010 - $207,520) includes an operating grant of $135,000 (2010 - $190,000) and other provincial grants totalling $3,600 (2010 - $12,520)

5. Equipment Lease

A photocopier is leased until October 15, 2013, with annual lease payments of $2,280 plus applicable taxes.

6. Statement of Cash Flows

A statement of cash flows has not been prepared as the required cash flow information is readily apparent from the other information included in these financial statements.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
Advisory Council on the Status of
WOMEN

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